

IPW
Patent

Attorney Docket No. 1021500-000141



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor Patent Application of

Giovanni Maria Carlomagno

Application No.: 10/551,117

Filing Date: September 28, 2005

Title: TEMPERING BENT GLASS SHEETS

) MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

) Group Art Unit: 1791

) Examiner: DEMARIS R. WILSON

) Confirmation No.: 4346

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- ☐ A Petition for Extension of Time is enclosed.
- ☐ _____ Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the ☐ \$ 65 ☐ \$ 130 fee per Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are enclosed.
- ☐ Also enclosed is/are: _____
- ☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the ☐ \$ 405 ☐ \$ 810 fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.
- ☐ Applicant(s) previously submitted _____ on _____ for which continued examination is requested.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least _____, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
- ☐ A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

- ☒ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	18	20	0	x \$ 50 (1202)	\$ 0
Independent Claims	1	3	0	x \$ 210 (1201)	0
<input type="checkbox"/> If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$ 370 (1203)					\$ 0
Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$ 0

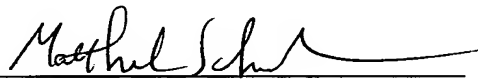
- ☐ Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.
- ☐ Charge _____ to credit card for the fee due. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date March 31, 2008

By:


Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32814

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
703 836 6620



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Giovanni Maria Carlomagno)	
Application No.: 10/551,117)	Group Art Unit: 1791
Filed: September 28, 2005)	Examiner: DEMARIS R. WILSON
For: TEMPERING BENT GLASS)	Confirmation No.: 4346
SHEETS)	
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RESPONSE TO HOLDING OF LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Official Action mailed February 29, 2008, identifies three claim groupings, which are said to lack unity of invention. The Official Action thus requires an election of one of the claim groupings.

In response to this requirement, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-12.

PCT Rule 13.2 provides that where a group of inventions is claimed, unity of invention exists when there is a technical relationship among the inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features. The Official Action identifies three groups of claims (Groups I, II, III), and notes that these groups share the common technical features of "a plurality of spaced plenums with diverging jets of quench gas with the quench nozzles being curved in at least one direction".

Relying on U.S. Patent No. 4,515,622 to McMaster, the Official Action concludes that this feature is known, and is thus not a special technical feature.

However, the Official Action's characterization of the corresponding technical features is inaccurate as it fails to take into consideration the feature of the spaced plenums extending transversely to the direction of the conveyance of the bent glass sheet. This feature, common to the claim groupings, is not disclosed by McMaster.

The embodiment shown in Figs. 5 and 6 of McMaster pertains to an apparatus for quenching a bent glass sheet. As shown in Fig. 6, the bent glass sheet moves in a direction perpendicular to the plane of the paper (i.e., in and out of the plane of the paper). The bent glass sheet is formed around the axis of curvature that also extends in this direction. The plenums 34 extend in a direction parallel to the axis of curvature (i.e., in and out of the plane of the paper; Column 7, Lines 48-52). Thus McMaster does not disclose the corresponding technical feature of the plenums extending transversely to the direction of the conveyance of the sheet of glass.

That the claims here satisfy the unity of invention standard is further supported by the proceedings in the international application. The reference upon which the Official Action here relies to support the holding of lack of unity of invention was also cited by the International Searching Authority. However, the International Searching Authority did not find that the claim groupings lack unity of invention. The Official Action here provides no explanation for why a different conclusion on the very same issue is appropriate.

For these reasons, withdrawal of the lack of unity requirement is respectfully requested.

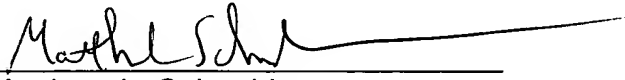
Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any

remaining issues pertaining to this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned counsel for Applicants regarding the same.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: March 31, 2008

By: 
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Registration No. 32814

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